

Norwalk Police Department  
Annual Report 2017

## HISTORY OF THE NORWALK DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICE

The Norwalk Police Department, as it exists today, was organized in October 1913 following an election by which the former cities of Norwalk and South Norwalk were consolidated into the present City of Norwalk. The new Department succeeded the original department and constabulary that had previously existed.

William R. Pennington, who had been chief of the South Norwalk Police Department, was elected by the Common Council as the first chief of the consolidated department. Thomas R. Leatherland who had been chief of the former Norwalk Police Department was named to head the Detective Bureau with the rank of Detective Sergeant. Captain's Thomas E. Hunt of Norwalk and Harry J. Gibson of South Norwalk were named Sergeants.

From 1913 to 1927 the Department was under control of the Common Council, one member of which was Chairman of the Police Committee. In 1927, the Board of Public Safety was created and took over the management of both Police and Fire Departments.

The officers patrolled the city on foot until 1920 when the first piece of motorized apparatus was purchased, a motorcycle first ridden by the late Officer Jarvis S. Murray. The first police cruiser was a Model T Ford purchased in 1925. Police cruisers have evolved and are still in use today. Motorcycles were discontinued in 1932 and reintroduced in 2012 with the addition of three Harley Davidson motorcycles. In 2016 two BMW Police Motorcycles were added to replace two Harley Davidson's. From the original Model T, the department fleet has grown to today's present size of 63 marked vehicles and 39 unmarked vehicles, prisoner transport van, a mobile crime scene truck, mobile police precinct, emergency services vehicle, four wheel drive Patrol vehicles, 2 Animal Control vehicles, 1 animal bus control, a pick-up truck, 3 police boats, and 5 police mountain bikes. Two-way radios were installed in the police cars in 1941. Prior to that time officers used call boxes to receive calls for service. The marked Patrol vehicles now have computers with direct access to the Department's computer system and Communications. Today's force consists of 179 sworn officers, 15 civilian personnel, 22 Communications Dispatchers and 3 police dogs.

Chief Pennington retired in 1933 and was succeeded by Chief Jerry Dorney. In 1936, the department management was again changed when the Board of Police Commissioners was created and appointed to manage the department. The three member Police Commission is comprised of the Mayor and 2 of his appointee's and it is responsible for the overall management of the department. The Police Commission conducts its regular business meetings on the third Monday of each month.

Since the department's inception in 1913, 4 members have been killed in the line of duty. They are; Sergeant Frank Stratton killed 10/13/30; Sergeant Nicolas Fera killed 7/29/71; Patrolman Sherrold Gorton killed 6/20/62 and Patrolman Marco Carias killed 3/20/82

# NORWALK POLICE

## MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the Norwalk Police Department to provide quality service to a diverse community through a culture of bias free policing; to hire and promote talented officers and a professional staff with the courage and desire to serve and protect our community; and to promote a cooperative spirit in which police officers and citizens work together to promote a safe environment.

**City of Norwalk**  
**Board of Police Commissioners**



**Honorable Harry W. Rilling**  
Mayor

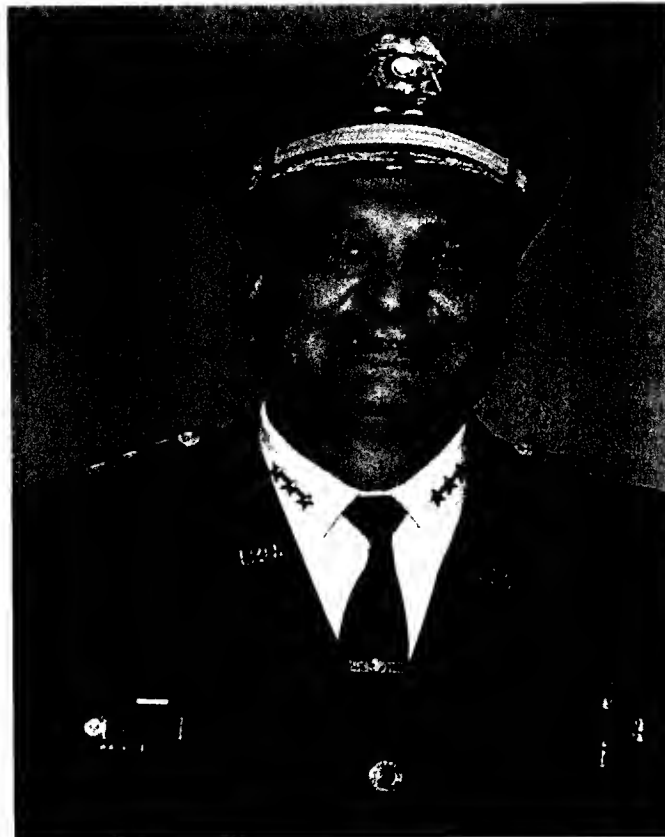
**Fran Collier-Clemmons**  
Commissioner

**Charles L. Yost**  
Commissioner

The Board of Police Commissioners is made up of the Mayor and two mayoral appointments. The board has overall authority over the operation of the Police Department and also serves as the City's Traffic Authority. Meetings for 2017 are scheduled on the third Monday of each month to start at 4:15 p.m.

# Norwalk Police Department

## Command Staff

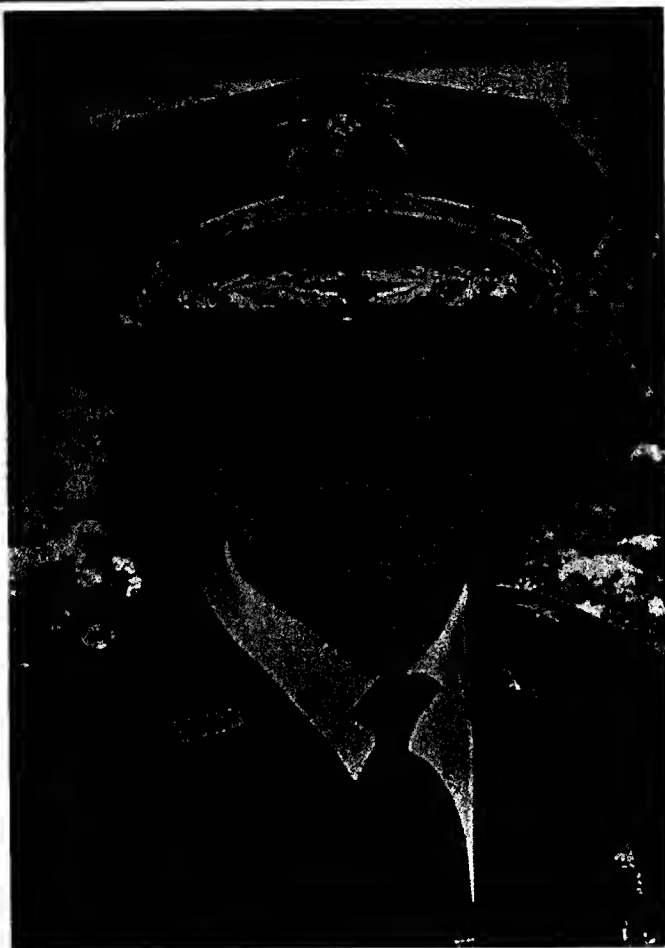


Chief Thomas E. Kulhawik

Chief of Police

A veteran of 35 years, Chief Kulhawik was appointed in July 2012

Twitter - @NPDChief



Deputy Chief Susan Zecca.

Deputy Chief of Police – Operations.

A veteran of 30 years, Deputy Chief Zecca was appointed in March 2013

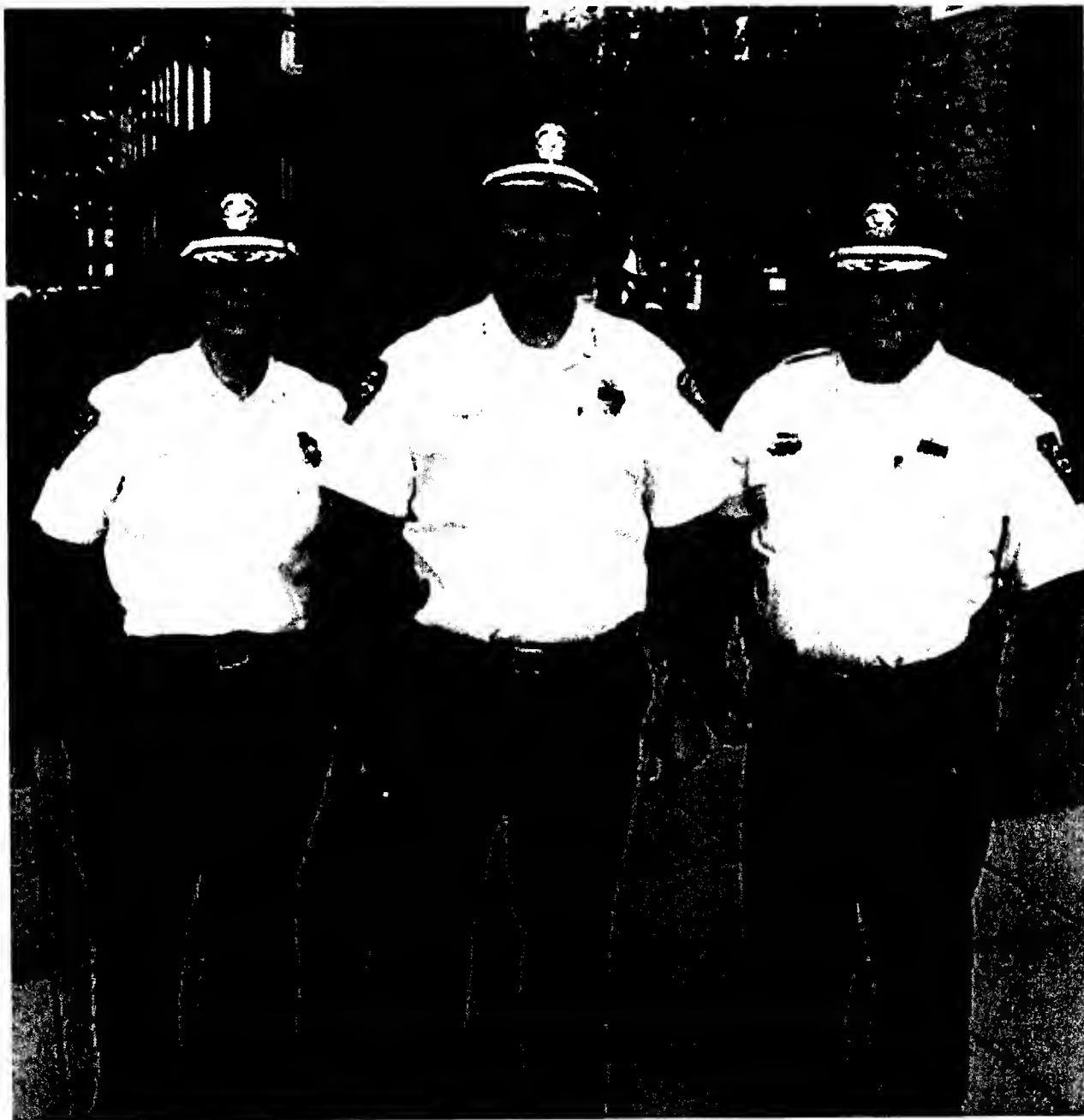


Deputy Chief Ashley A. Gonzalez

Deputy Chief of Police – Administration.

A veteran of 30 years, Deputy Chief Gonzalez was appointed in July 2015

**Norwalk Police Department**  
**Command Staff**



## HOW TO REACH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

EMERGENCY Police - Fire - Ambulance 911

ROUTINE CALLS 203-854-3000

Administrative Services 203-854-3020

Chief of Police 203-854-3001

Chief's Office Administrator 203-854-3054

Community Policing Supervisor 203-854-3004

Community Services/Crime Prevention 203-854-3074

Communications/Dispatch Supervisor 203-854-3098

Deputy Chief of Police - Operations 203-854-3002

Deputy Chief of Police — Administration 203-854-3053

Desk Officer - Front Desk 203-854-3051

Detective Bureau 203-854-3011

Detective Bureau Supervisor 203-854-3027

Internal Affairs & Professional Standards 203-854-3007

Headquarters Division Lieutenant 203-854-3052

Patrol Supervisor (1st Platoon - nights) 203-854-3058

Patrol Supervisor (2nd Platoon - days) 203-854-3059

Patrol Supervisor (3rd Platoon - evenings) 203-854-3060

Planning, Research & Accreditation 203-854-3015

Property Division 203-854-3063

Records 203-854-3009

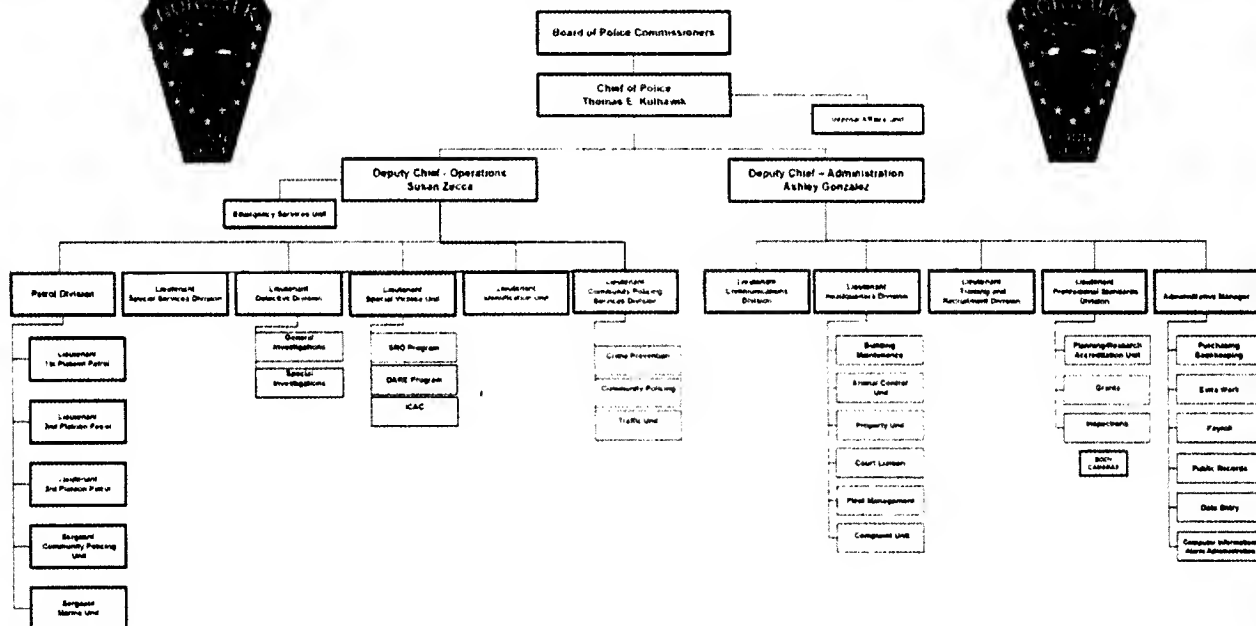
Recruitment & Training 203-854-3003

Special Services - Narcotics 203-854-3012

Special Victims Unit 203-854-3042

Norwalk Department of Police Services

# Norwalk Department of Police Service Table of Organization





PATROL DIVISION

### A SOLAD

- 1 DePantilis, Anthony
- 2 Loyalto, Bruce
- 3 Castaldi, Robert
- 4 Mulkern, Adam
- 5 Mancini, Michael
- 6 Green, Andrew
- 7 del Pino, Anthony\*
- 8 Arvanitakis, Kostantine
- 9 Gonzalez, Edgar

## CSOLAD

- 1 Ginez, Vidal
- 2 Proto, Louis
- 3 Petrafesa, John
- 4 Roncinske, Andrew<sup>a</sup>
- 5 Macaluso, Joseph
- 6 Silva, Jose
- 7 Lusniak, Jason
- 8 Aldarondo, Raul
- 9 Claver-Gbinnia, Kennedy

ASOLAD

1. Fludd, Kenny
2. Giannattasio, Lou
3. Peterson, David \*
4. Hollister, Kelly
5. Figueroa, Nelson
6. Vazquez, Daniel
7. Haddy, Kelly
8. Barron, James
9. Seltz, Richard

## C SOLVD

- 1 Roselle, Phillip
- 2 Jaeger, Stephen
- 3 Monteleone, Domenic
- 4 Smith, Terrance
- 5 Nash, Jermaine
- 6 Holmes, Richard <sup>o</sup>
- 7 Nyquist, Georgia
- 8 Prada, Kimberly
- 9 Kassins, Christopher

ASOLAD

- 1 Williams, Carl
- 2 Bolling, Irving
- 3 Daley, George
- 4 Sefcik, Daniel
- 5 Matsen, William
- 6 Serrano, Luis
- 7 Shoenthal, Kevin
- 8 Versace, Kevin
- 9 Martino, Joseph
- 10 Laudano, Sara ^

CSOLAD

- 1 Deak, Bryan
- 2 Sieves, David
- 3 Boyd, Tyrone
- 4 Sellas, Michael
- 5 Paulemon, Shoubert
- 6 Blasko, Timothy
- 7 Velazquez, Ramon
- 8 Wargo, Paul
- 9 Taylor, Lindsey
- 10 Martinez, Ariel

### Norwalk Police Department Duty Roster

COMBINED DISPATCH

**Lt. Praveen John**

### First Platoon

Aysha Miranda-Rivera  
John "Corey" Robinson

Chris Lazar  
David Schulman  
Mike Connors  
Matt Allan

### Second Platoon

Robert Quigley  
Stacey LaRicca

Eva Gutierrez  
Mike Devaney  
Eric Giddiens  
Jim Wynn  
Richard Reynolds  
Bill Winter

### Third Platoon

Debra Charletta  
Jason Czajkowski

Dave Jendrick  
Paul Vieser  
Mike Nealy  
Alexi Ouellette  
Devin Ford  
Joshua Wrinn

# **NORWALK POLICE DEPARTMENT SENIORITY LIST**

	<u><b>RANK</b></u>	<u><b>NAME</b></u>	<u><b>APPOINTED</b></u>	<u><b>RANK APPOINTED</b></u>
1.	Chief	Kulhawik, Thomas	07-29-83	07-12-12
1.	Deputy Chief	Zecca, Susan	07-07-88	03-22-13
2.	Deputy Chief	Gonzalez, Ashley	10-27-88	07-16-15
1.	Lieutenant	Resnick, Paul	10-10-83	11-22-01
2.	Lieutenant	Lowe, William	10-27-88	02-21-07
3.	Lieutenant	Cunningham, Brian	10-15-92	10-02-08
4.	Lieutenant	Mattera, Thomas	09-25-80	10-02-08
5.	Lieutenant	John, Praveen	09-23-91	07-23-09
6.	Lieutenant	Weisgerber, Arthur	09-19-88	08-02-12
7.	Lieutenant	Walsh, James	07-07-88	08-02-12
8.	Lieutenant	Lepore, Marc	05-09-96	09-06-12
9.	Lieutenant	O'Connor, David	07-10-86	03-22-13
10.	Lieutenant	Lepore, Melissa	10-01-98	10-31-13
11.	Lieutenant	Roncinske, Thomas	04-10-89	02-27-15
12.	Lieutenant	Blake, Terrence	10-01-98	07-16-15
13.	Lieutenant	Hume, Bruce	03-05-81	02-01-17
1.	Sergeant	Lapak, Peter	03-02-78	08-16-99
2.	Sergeant	Moquin, Joseph	11-18-93	03-27-03
3.	Sergeant	Young, Lee	10-15-92	04-21-08
4.	Sergeant	Kalmanides, Stefanos	04-29-99	08-20-08
5.	Sergeant	Sedlock, Drew	11-27-00	10-02-08
6.	Sergeant	Proudfoot, Jeffrey	01-09-97	08-06-09
7.	Sergeant	Fern, Thomas	03-08-90	01-27-11
8.	Sergeant	Calise, Salvatore	08-01-96	06-23-11
9.	Sergeant	Gulino, Sofia	07-15-04	04-19-12
10.	Sergeant	Russo, Dean	11-18-93	08-02-12
11.	Sergeant	Scanlan, Jason	11-27-00	09-06-12
12.	Sergeant	Dinho, Joseph	10-18-07	03-22-13
13.	Sergeant	Fonseca, Rafael	11-27-00	04-01-13
14.	Sergeant	Tolnay, Alex	04-29-99	10-31-13
15.	Sergeant	Scully, Gregg	04-29-99	10-31-13

Revised: November 22, 2017

179 SWORN OFFICERS

# ***NORWALK POLICE DEPARTMENT***

## ***SENIORITY LIST***

	<u><i><b>RANK</b></i></u>	<u><i><b>NAME</b></i></u>	<u><i><b>APPOINTED</b></i></u>	<u><i><b>RANK APPOINTED</b></i></u>
16.	Sergeant	Markert, Kevin	09-30-04	01-27-14
17.	Sergeant	Sherry, Shannon	09-30-04	04-24-14
18.	Sergeant	Orr, David	07-19-01	04-24-14
19.	Sergeant	Kruger, Garrett	09-22-05	02-27-15
20.	Sergeant	White, Peter	11-18-93	02-27-15
21.	Sergeant	Zwickler, Jared	02-05-10	07-16-15
22.	Sergeant	Paulino, Nathaniel	02-16-06	01-28-16
23.	Sergeant	Mosher, James	07-15-04	01-28-16
24.	Sergeant	Evarts, Ryan	05-18-06	10-01-16
25.	Sergeant	Richard DeLallo	10-04-07	02-01-17
26.	Sergeant	Bisceglie, Justin	04-03-08	03-02-17
1.	Detective	Maloney, William	07-21-83	01-26-89
2.	Detective	Thompson, James	07-07-88	09-21-06
3.	Detective	Marquis, Timothy	11-27-00	10-02-08
4.	Detective	Cisero, Dominick	09-30-04	06-23-11
5.	Detective	Lapak, Kristina	02-25-99	06-23-11
6.	Detective	Hudyma, David	07-15-04	12-22-11
7.	Detective	Serio, Daniel	04-17-08	09-06-12
8.	Detective	Taranto, John	07-15-04	10-31-13
9.	Detective	Imparato, Christopher	02-05-09	04-24-14
10.	Detective	Fitzmaurice, Daniel	09-30-04	04-24-14
11.	Detective	Downer, Courtney	02-25-99	10-23-14
12.	Detective	Bell, John	08-09-07	02-27-15
13.	Detective	Kougioumtzidis, Nikolaos	02-16-06	07-16-15
14.	Detective	Podgorski, Tomasz	06-28-12	09-01-16
15.	Detective	Sura, John	11-10-11	10-01-16
16.	Detective	Collins, Brendan	08-09-07	03-02-17
17.	Detective	English, Patrick	01-17-08	03-02-17

## **NORWALK POLICE DEPARTMENT SENIORITY LIST**

<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>APPOINTED</u>	<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>APPOINTED</u>
1. Zavodjancik, William	07-23-81	42. Sefcik, Daniel	02-05-09
2. Silva, Michael	08-21-87	43. Montañez, Richard	02-05-09
3. Curry, Robert	08-21-87	44. Van Rensburg, Francois	02-05-09
4. Ramirez, Cesar	10-08-87	45. Lipeika, Kyle	02-05-09
5. Fludd, Kenny	03-10-88	46. Matsen, William	02-05-09
6. Roselle, Phillip	03-10-88	47. Smith, Terrance	02-05-09
7. Williams, Carl	04-21-88	48. Proto, Louis	02-05-09
8. Bolling, Irving	04-21-88	49. Salley, Jeremy	02-05-09
9. Tiani, Larry	09-19-88	50. Mulkern, Adam	09-04-09
10. Lee, Melissa	04-10-89	51. Sgritta, Christopher	10-13-09
11. Cote, Michael	11-02-89	52. Zavitz, Jon	10-13-09
12. Ouellette, Russell	09-23-91	53. Capela, Cristina	10-13-09
13. Daley, George	10-15-92	54. Blasko, Timothy	10-31-09
14. Vetarc, David	10-15-92	55. Nash, Jermaine	02-05-10
15. Kovelakas, Anastasios	10-15-92	56. Anderson, Scott	03-25-10
16. Delgado, Hector	11-18-93	57. Velazquez, Ramon	10-14-10
17. Billingslea, Monica	11-18-93	58. Luciano, Steven	10-14-10
18. Suda, Mark	11-18-93	59. Taborda, Felipe	10-14-10
19. Jaeger, Stephen	04-04-96	60. Dascola, Nicholas	10-19-10
20. Deak, Bryan	01-09-97	61. Mogollon, Javier	02-07-11
21. Haggerty, John	01-09-97	62. Robertson, Neil	02-07-11
22. Holms, Christopher	01-09-97	63. Serrano, Luis	02-07-11
23. Sixto, Jean-Maxime	01-09-97	64. Shoenthal, Kevin	04-07-11
24. Nieves, David	02-25-99	65. DeMott, Gabriel	04-07-11
25. Giannattasio, Louie	02-25-99	66. Mancini, Michael	07-07-11
26. DePanfilis, Anthony	02-25-99	67. Barrett, Brian	07-07-11
27. Vento, Corey	11-27-00	68. Holmes, Richard	09-30-11
28. Boyd, Tyrone	11-27-00	69. Lee, Owen	11-10-11
29. Goñez, Vidal	09-30-04	70. Abruzzini, Cornell	01-17-12
30. Peterson, David	07-28-05	71. Busch, David	01-17-12
31. Mancini, Andrew	12-22-05	72. DiMeglio, Michael	01-17-12
32. Sellas, Michael	07-06-06	73. Versace, Kevin	03-30-12
33. Wright, James	03-08-07	74. Ribisl, Richard	03-30-12
34. Paulemon, Shoubert	06-14-07	75. Geismar, David	04-09-12
35. Wasilewski, Christopher	08-09-07	76. Wargo, Paul	04-09-12
36. Kalamaras, Thomas	10-04-07	77. Hollister, Kelly	06-28-12
37. Lovallo, Bruce	01-17-08	78. Pugliese, Michael	09-20-12
38. Rodriguez, Julio	04-03-08	79. Frattaroli, Joseph	10-01-12
39. Monteleone, Domenic	04-03-08	80. Tejada, Ramon	10-01-12
40. Castaldi, Robert	04-17-08	81. Green, Andrew	10-25-12
41. McSally, Michelle	12-05-08	82. Bryce, Akeem	12-20-12

***NORWALK POLICE DEPARTMENT  
SENIORITY LIST***

<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>APPOINTED</u>
83. del Pino, Anthony	12-20-12
84. Martino, Joseph	01-31-13
85. Cowf, Stephen	02-28-13
86. Figueroa, Nelson	04-03-13
87. Nyquist, Georgia	05-02-13
88. Nyquist, Matthew	07-25-13
89. Singh, Taranjit	07-25-13
90. Garbera, Theodore	08-29-13
91. Petrafesa, John	01-23-14
92. Gay, Elizabeth	01-23-14
93. Prada, Kimberly	01-23-14
94. Vazquez, Daniel	01-23-14
95. Haddy, Kelly	06-26-14
96. Roncinske, Andrew	06-30-14
97. Macaluso, Joseph	10-14-14
98. Arvanitakis, Constantine	03-26-15
99. Colletto, Jake	03-26-15
100. Silva, Jose	03-26-15
101. Lusniak, Jason	09-03-15
102. Torresos, Keith	09-25-15
103. Aldarondo, Raul	10-19-15
104. Claver-Obinna, Kennedy	10-19-15
105. Taylor, Lindsey	12-28-15
106. Gonzalez, Edgar	12-28-15
107. Laudano, Sara	12-28-15
108. Barron, James	03-24-16
109. Hamm, Brian	05-05-16
110. Martinez, Ariel	05-05-16
111. Acosta, Jaime	05-05-16
112. Seitz, Richard	06-27-16
113. Kassimis, Christopher	09-26-16
114. Yang, James	09-26-16
115. Yenkelum, Cortney	03-30-17
116. Avila, Joshua	03-30-17
117. DeVito, Ralph	06-29-17
118. Howard, Stephanie	06-29-17
119. Zwillich, Robert	09-07-17
120. Ortiz, Tiffany	10-19-17

## **2017 Personnel Changes**

### **Sworn Officers**

#### **New Officers**

- |                           |          |
|---------------------------|----------|
| 1. Off. Joshua Avila      | 03-30-17 |
| 2. Off. Courtney Yenkelun | 03-30-17 |
| 3. Off. Ralph DeVito      | 06-29-17 |
| 4. Off. Stephanie Howard  | 06-29-17 |
| 5. Off. Tiffany Ortiz     | 10-19-17 |

#### **Promotions**

- |                          |          |
|--------------------------|----------|
| 1. Lt. Bruce Hume        | 02-01-17 |
| 2. Sgt. Richard DeLallo  | 02-01-17 |
| 3. Sgt. Justin Bisceglie | 03-02-17 |
| 4. Det. Brendan Collins  | 03-02-17 |
| 5. Det. Patrick English  | 03-02-17 |

#### **Retirements**

- |                          |          |
|--------------------------|----------|
| 1. Lt. Paul Vinett       | 01-31-17 |
| 2. Off. Ronald Spagnuolo | 08-07-17 |

#### **Resignations**

- |                         |          |
|-------------------------|----------|
| 1. Off. Robert Zwillich | 05-03-17 |
|-------------------------|----------|

#### **Deaths (Retired)**

- |                                     |          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Off. Barbara Roy                 | 03-11-17 |
| 2. Off. James Bagley, Jr.           | 03-15-17 |
| 3. Special Officer Richard Pivarnik | 02-26-17 |

#### **Patrol Re-Assignment**

- |                                     |          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Det. Louie Giannattasio (Patrol) | 03-02-17 |
|-------------------------------------|----------|

#### **Re-Hire**

- |                         |          |
|-------------------------|----------|
| 1. Off. Robert Zwillich | 09-07-17 |
|-------------------------|----------|

## 2017 Personnel Changes

### Civilian

#### Civilian Deaths

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| 1. Dispatcher Vincent Modugno                 | 02-09-17 |
| 2. Former Police Commissioner Patricia Conlin | 03-24-17 |

#### Civilian Resignations

1. Lauren Mecozzi

**NORWALK DEPARTMENT OF  
POLICE SERVICE  
ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY**



**NORWALK CONCERT HALL, CITY HALL  
125 EAST AVENUE  
NORWALK, CT**

**Program**

<b>Bag Pipes</b>	Fairfield County Police Pipes & Drums
<b>Opening Remarks</b>	Deputy Chief Susan Zecca
<b>Color Procession</b>	NPD Honor Guard
<b>National Anthem</b>	Detective Kristina Lapak
<b>Invocation</b>	Reverend Artie Kassimis Police Chaplain
<b>Remarks</b>	Mayor Harry W. Rilling Chief Thomas E. Kulhawik
<b>Awards Presentation</b>	Lieutenant Terrence Blake
<b>2017 Officer of the Year Presentation</b>	Chief Thomas E. Kulhawik
<b>Benediction</b>	Reverend Artie Kassimis Police Chaplain
<b>Closing Remarks</b>	Deputy Chief Ashley Gonzalez
<b>Retire Colors</b>	NPD Honor Guard

CHIEF'S LETTER OF RECOGNITION

Off. Christopher Holms

D.A.R.E. Camp

Officer Holms headed the 2017 Summer D.A.R.E. Camp. Officer Holms coordinated activities for seventy-nine campers including a Manne Unit ride-along, a trip to Lake Compounce and the Adventure Park in Bridgeport. Officer Holms' dedication and countless hours of preparation have made this camp a sought after program for city residents. The D.A.R.E. camp is an example of NPD's continued engagement and positive presence within the community.

CHIEF'S LETTER OF RECOGNITION

Off. Robert Curry

Off. James Wright

Disturbance

On July 10, 2017 an individual had come to Headquarters to turn himself in on an arrest warrant. Officer Curry, the desk officer, took his information and advised him to take a seat. The male quickly became aggressive, jumped on the counter, started yelling and began spitting. Officers quickly responded and the male laid down on the floor causing officers to believe he was having a medical issue. As Officers Curry and Wright approached the male, he began kicking and spitting at them. Several officers tried to subdue this individual without success. Officer Curry then deployed his taser which allowed officers to gain control and take him into custody. Officers Curry and Wright's actions brought a resolution to a violent situation.

CHIEF'S LETTER OF RECOGNITION

Det. John Taranto

Robbery Arrest

On August 23, 2017 Detective Taranto was assigned to an armed robbery that had occurred at World of Beverage on Main Avenue. The suspect confronted the store clerk with a large butcher knife and demanded money before fleeing the scene. Detective Taranto processed the scene and obtained video surveillance of the suspect. The knife used in the robbery was located by patrol a block away from the incident. Detective Taranto looked through over 1600 photos of suspects in the NPD Mug Book and was able to locate a male that resembled the suspect. Detective Taranto interviewed the male and was able to obtain a full confession from the subject. Detective Taranto did an outstanding job on this investigation which was solved in less than forty-eight hours.

CHIEF'S LETTER OF RECOGNITION

Det. Kristina LaPak

Sexual Assault

On June 4, 2017, a 10 year-old girl reported to her mother that she was sexually assaulted by her fifty-five year-old grandfather the day prior. Detective LaPak conducted a highly thorough investigation which included documenting the details of the heinous incident through a forensic interview and the collection of DNA evidence supporting the child's claim. On June 6 2017, Detective LaPak secured an arrest warrant for the grandfather charging Sexual Assault 1, Sexual Assault 4, and Risk of Injury to a Minor with a \$500,000 bond. Detective LaPak located the offender the same day at his workplace and effected the arrest. Detective LaPak's hard work and professionalism was critical in the quick and successful resolution to this terrible crime.

CHIEF'S LETTER OF RECOGNITION

Det. John Bell

Motor Vehicle Burglaries

Detective Bell was assigned to a series of motor vehicle burglaries which took place on January 24, 2017. Detective Bell determined that credit cards which had been stolen in the commission of these burglaries had been used at CVS in Stamford. Over the course of several months, countless contacts were made with loss prevention and corporate security. Detective Bell was able to establish a pattern which consistently came back to a singular individual. During this case, Detective Bell showed a special tenacity to see the job through to the end and a high degree of attention to detail. Detective Bell did not allow several dead ends to deter him from the ultimate goal of completing this investigation with an arrest.

UNIT CITATION

Det. Dominick Cisero  
Det. John Taranto  
Det. Daniel Fitzmaurice  
Det. John Sura  
Det. Tomasz Podgorski  
Robbery Investigation

This group of detectives interviewed four suspects who were in custody after a suspicious motor vehicle complaint led to the recovery of a semi-automatic handgun and drugs. During the lengthy interviews requiring superior interviewing skills and tenacity, the suspects ultimately confessed to several robberies in Norwalk, Newtown and Stamford.

UNIT CITATION

Lt. Thomas Roncinske	Off. Richard Holmes
Sgt. David Orr	Off. Cornell Abruzzini
Sgt. Nathaniel Paulino	Off. Joseph Frattaroli
Sgt. Justin Bisceglie	Off. Elizabeth Gay
Det. Kristina Lapak	Off. Kimberly Prada
Det. Timothy Marquis	Sgt. Lou Derubels
Off. Christopher Holms	Sgt. Erin Trew
Off. Thomas Kalamaras	Off. William Edson
Off. Julio Rodriguez	Off. James Comstock
Off. Phil Taborda	Off. Lou Scarano
Off. Neil Robertson	

VIP Protection

On December 18, 2017, Senior White House Advisor Ivanka Trump and IBM CEO Ginni Rometty visited and spoke to the students at the Norwalk High School Early College Academy. This event included a number of IBM senior executive, members of the Norwalk School Administration and the President of Norwalk Community College. Due to limits by the Secret Service, the Special Victims Unit, along with four members of the Emergency Services Unit, became responsible for coordinating additional security for the event. There were several incidents that created potential instability which were handled swiftly. All officers performed duties without fail and upheld the highest degree of professionalism.

UNIT CITATION  
Sgt. David Orr  
Sgt. Nathaniel Paulino  
Det. Kristina LaPak  
Child Pornography Arrest

The Special Victims Unit received a cyber tip from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in regards to the uploading of child pornography from an IP address in Norwalk. Detective LaPak ascertained the physical location of the IP address and obtained a search warrant. After the Special Victims Unit executed the search warrant, 1100 images and videos of child pornography were seized and a juvenile was subsequently arrested. Sergeant Paulino's analyses of the juvenile's cell phone showed that the juvenile had been trading large quantities of child pornography through a texting application. Sergeant Orr was able to ascertain through Ex Parte Orders that the juvenile was exchanging these images and videos with individuals from New York, Massachusetts, Florida and Australia. The Special Victims Unit worked diligently with other jurisdictions which culminated in two additional arrests. The inter-agency cooperative effort towards the removal of these offenders from society truly highlights the outstanding work done by the members of the Special Victims Unit.

UNIT CITATION

Lt. Thomas Roncinske	Off. Michael Mancini
Sgt. Jeffrey Proudfoot	Off. Anthony del Pino
Sgt. Peter White	Off. Matthew Nyquist
Off. Anthony DePanfilis	Off. Andrew Green
Off. Bruce Lovallo	Off. Elizabeth Gay
Off. Robert Castaldi	Off. Jason Lusniak
Off. Kevin Versace	Off. Jose Silva
Off. Paul Wargo	Off. Ariel Martinez

Stolen Motor Vehicles

On April 7, 2017, officers on the midnight shift responded to Roton Avenue on the report of a male subject attempting to steal motor vehicles. Officers found two vehicles fleeing the area. After a brief pursuit, the two stolen vehicles crashed, damaging a utility pole. This caused the loss of a radio repeater, interfering with the ability of officers to communicate with each other or with dispatchers. All officers are cited for their professional and decisive actions. In total, three teenage suspects were arrested.

#### UNIT CITATION

Lt. Thomas Mattera	Det. Nikolaos Kougioumtzidis
Lt. James Walsh	Off. Marc Suda
Sgt. Shannon Sherry	Off. David Nieves
Det. Daniel Serio	Off. Louie Giannattasio
Det. Courtney Downer	Off. Richard Holmes
Det. John Bell	

#### Overdose Investigation

On July 22, 2017, there were at least six overdose related calls within the City of Norwalk. Two of the overdoses were fatal. Officer Giannattasio, assigned to one of the cases, was at Norwalk hospital when a surviving male arrived. Officer Giannattasio spoke with the surviving male, and deduced that the male had smoked narcotics with one of the deceased individuals. Detective Kougioumtzidis assumed the overdose investigations and determined that three of the overdoses were connected due to patterns that he noted. Members of the Special Services Division received additional information from an individual who had purchased crack cocaine from a dealer on the day of the overdoses. Separately, Officer Nieves was approached by a civilian and was given additional information on the same dealer. Shortly after, the dealer was developed as a suspect in at least three of the overdose cases. Members of the Special Services Division located the dealer and found that he was in possession of a large amount of crack cocaine laced with Fentanyl. The dealer was arrested and interviewed, leading to a full confession of having possessed and sold crack cocaine to the two deceased individuals and the surviving male. Detective Kougioumtzidis obtained an arrest warrant for the suspect for Manslaughter 1, Distribution of Narcotics and Assault 2. The collaborative efforts of the Patrol Division, Special Services Division, and Detective Bureau proved highly beneficial in this investigation. What had the potential to be a true catastrophe was caught in its early stages, contained and then stopped.

#### UNIT CITATION

Lt. Thomas Mattera	Supervisory Insp. James Eagan
Sgt. Jared Zwickler	Inspector Edwin Rodriguez
Det. Christopher Imparato	Inspector Steve Coppola
Asst. States Attorney David Applegate	Inspector Mike Sheldon
Asst. States Attorney Reed Durham	Inspector Adrian Acosta

#### Cold Case Arrests

Members of the Detective Bureau, Sergeant Zwickler and Detective Imparato, worked intensively for two years on two cold case murder investigations in conjunction with the Cold Case Unit of the Office of the Chief States Attorney. Lieutenant Mattera was instrumental in creating a relationship with the Cold Case Unit and moving forward with the long undertaking that the Grand Jury Investigation entailed. Because of Sergeant Zwickler and Detective Imparato's persistence and diligence, they were able to develop evidence to support probable cause for the arrest warrants. These members of the Detective Bureau's tireless pursuit of justice resulted in two murder charge arrests for incidents which occurred six and eight years ago.

#### MERITORIOUS COMMENDATION

Det. John Bell

#### Overdose Investigation

Detective Bell assumed the investigation for a Heroin/Fentanyl related overdose that resulted in an untimely death of a twenty-two year old female. Detective Bell interviewed the suspect, who was accompanied by a legal representative. Detective Bell's expertise in interviewing led to the suspect to not only admitting to having introduced the victim to heroin, but also to having provided the victim with heroin that was laced with Fentanyl on the evening of her death. The suspect further admitted to having completely cleaned the scene prior to Police arrival and gave a full confession to the crime of Manslaughter 2. Detective Bell's keen attention to detail and strong desire to see the case through to the end brought the case to a successful conclusion.

#### MERITORIOUS COMMENDATION

Sgt. Alexander Tolnay

#### Homicide Investigation

On June 17, 2016, Sergeant Tolnay responded to 10 Arch Street to process the scene of a suspected homicide by ligature strangulation. Sergeant Tolnay demonstrated an exemplary display of crime scene proficiency and dedication in processing two separate crime scenes without assistance. As a result of Sergeant Tolnay's excellent crime scene work, the suspect pled guilty to strangulation murder in December 2017 and sentenced to 25 years in prison.

MERITORIOUS COMMENDATION

Off. Richard Holmes

Off. Nelson Figueroa

Handgun Arrest

On April 27, 2017, Strategic Narcotics Enforcement Team Officers Holmes and Figueroa attempted a motor vehicle stop for narcotics related offenses. The operator led the officers on a brief pursuit during which one of the four occupants leapt out of the still moving vehicle. Officers were able to stop the vehicle and take three occupants into custody and recovered two handguns, one with a thirty round magazine. Officers Holmes and Figueroa consistently perform well in stressful situations, are extremely productive and are excellent assets to the Police Department.

MERITORIOUS COMMENDATION

Det. Dominick Cisero

Det. John Taranto

House Fire

On March 18, 2017, the department received a 911 call of a house fire with occupants still in the home. Detectives Cisero and Taranto were in the area and were the first to arrive. The detectives entered the home and assisted a woman to safety. They re-entered the house and used a fire extinguisher to battle the fire while searching for occupants. Luckily there were no other persons inside. The Fire Department arrived and finished extinguishing the fire.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Off. Paul Wargo

Stolen Motor Vehicles

Officer Wargo was the first officer to arrive on scene on the report of motor vehicle thefts in progress. Officer Wargo observed two stolen vehicles traveling at a high rate of speed away from the area. One of the vehicles crashed and Officer Wargo engaged in a foot pursuit of the suspects. Officer Wargo was able to take one suspect into custody and deploy his taser on another. Officer Wargo's keen observation led to the arrest of two of the suspects, who were linked to numerous automobile burglaries and thefts, and residential burglaries in Norwalk and surrounding towns.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

**Off. Tyrone Boyd**

**Off. Shoubert Paulemon**

Emotionally Disturbed Person

Officers Boyd and Paulemon were dispatched to a call of an emotionally disturbed man who was threatening suicide. When they arrived, the officers found a forty year old intoxicated male sitting on the kitchen floor. When additional officers arrived, the male subject became agitated and started screaming while pressing a blade against his throat. Officers Boyd and Paulemon calmly spoke to the male subject and the officers were able to convince the male to put the knife down without injury to themselves or the subject. The subject was then taken to Norwalk Hospital for evaluation. A few days later, the officers received a letter of apology from the subject and thanking them for their actions.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

**Off. Brian Hamm**

Shots Fired & Armed Subject

On December 23, 2017 officers from the First Platoon were conducting selective enforcement in the Webster Street parking lot due to a large party. While there, numerous gun shots were heard coming from the southwest corner of the parking lot. Officer Hamm drew his firearm and started moving towards the shots being fired. Officer Hamm observed a male walking with both hands in the front pocket of his hooded sweatshirt. Officer Hamm confronted the male and issued him commands for the male to show his hands. The male then dropped a firearm on the ground and began running, attempting to flee. Officer Hamm alerted a nearby officer that a firearm was dropped and engaged the suspect in a foot pursuit. Officer Hamm apprehended the male a short distance away. Officer Hamm showed outstanding situational awareness and great police work in affecting an arrest on an armed subject.

LIFE SAVING AWARD

Det. Timothy Marquis

Off. Michael Silva

Boating Incident

On September 4, 2017, Detective Marquis and Officer Silva were providing security at the Swim Race at Bayley Beach. There were approximately sixty swimmers being escorted by a small fleet of kayaks. Detective Marquis and Officer Silva rescued a male when his kayak capsized. The officers then observed a female in distress and struggling to stay afloat after her kayak also capsized. Officer Silva maneuvered the Police Boat close enough for Detective Marquis to dive into the water to rescue the female. Officer Silva's boating ability and Detective Marquis' quick action by diving in to assist the female, no doubt, prevented her from drowning.

LIFE SAVING AWARD

Off. John Haggerty

Assault Investigation

On September 30, 2017, Officer Haggerty responded to a reported assault at Dunkin Donuts at 195 Main Street. He quickly located the juvenile suspects behind 205 Main Avenue. Officer Haggerty, noting a pool of blood in the parking lot, determined that one of the juvenile suspects had sustained a stab wound to his inner thigh. Due to dangers and rapidly evolving circumstances, Officer Haggerty had to await additional officers to secure the suspects. Once this was done, he immediately applied a tourniquet to the male's leg to stop the active bleeding. Officer Haggerty's decisive lifesaving intervention likely kept this individual from bleeding out on scene. Norwalk Hospital staff stated that Officer Haggerty's actions were a determining factor in the male's positive outcome.

POLICE SERVICE CROSS

Off. Marc Suda  
Off. Steven Luciano  
Off. Owen Lee  
Handgun Arrest

Strategic Narcotics Enforcement Team Officers Suda, Luciano and Lee were actively patrolling the city when they received information from a Probation Officer that a subject who had just left Adult Probation was armed with a handgun. Officers were familiar with the subject from prior police contacts and were able to quickly locate the male at the bus terminal. When officers asked the suspect if he had anything on him, he began to reach for his waistband. Officer Luciano was able to secure the suspect's hand before he could reach for his waistband. A Ruger P95 9mm semi automatic handgun was recovered from the suspect as well as nearly sixty pieces of crack cocaine. The officers were able to take information received from a reliable source, quickly formulate a tactical plan and execute it without incident.

2017 OFFICER OF THE YEAR  
Det. Christopher Imperato

Detective Christopher Imperato joined the Norwalk Police Department in February 2009. He has a Bachelor's Degree from Marist College in Criminal Justice. Detective Imperato worked in the Patrol Division until his promotion in April 2014. He has received two Meritorious Commendations in his career as well as a Unit Citation this evening.

Detective Imperato is receiving the highest award that is bestowed upon an officer on an annual basis. Detective Imperato worked extensively for two years on two cold case murder investigations in conjunction with the Cold Case Unit of the Office of the Chief State's Attorney. Because of his persistence and diligence as the lead investigator, Detective Imperato was able to develop evidence to support probable cause for these arrest warrants. Detective Imperato has always taken great pride in his work and in studying these cases, to fully understand them by deconstructing and then reconstructing them in order to bring them to fruition. Detective Imperato's professionalism and his commitment to his work are a credit to him and the Norwalk Police Detective Bureau. Nothing was more satisfying than Detective Imperato informing the families of both victims of the arrest of the persons responsible for the murder of their loved ones.

## Award Classifications

### Medal of Honor

Awarded to officers who distinguish themselves by an act of heroism while/and exposing themselves to extreme physical injury. This shall be the department's highest award and shall be presented only under extraordinary circumstances.

*This citation bar shall consist of a green bar with a field of gold stars.*

### Police Service Cross

Awarded to officers who distinguish themselves by an act of bravery while exposing themselves to physical injury, or while engaged with an armed adversary, and exposing themselves to physical injury.

*This citation bar shall consist of a yellow and blue bar with gold vertical divisions.*

### Purple Heart

Awarded to officers who have been seriously, critically or fatally injured in the performance of law enforcement duty. In addition, this award may be conferred if any injury was averted by the wearing of body armor. The degree of injury and totality of circumstances shall be the determining factors.

*This citation bar shall be a purple bar.*

### Life Saving Award

Awarded to officers who save the life of another.

*This citation bar shall consist of a red bar with white stripes on each end.*

### Distinguished Service Award

Awarded to officers who distinguish themselves through outstanding and extraordinary police work and judgment beyond the scope of normal and reasonable expectations.

*This citation bar shall consist of a white bar with blue vertical divisions.*

### Meritorious Commendation Certificate

Awarded to an officer who distinguishes themselves by a meritorious achievement, act or service to the department and which act is performed in a manner beyond normal expectations. This award would address outstanding police work at a level just below the Distinguished Service Award.

*This citation bar shall consist of a white bar with two vertical stripes.*

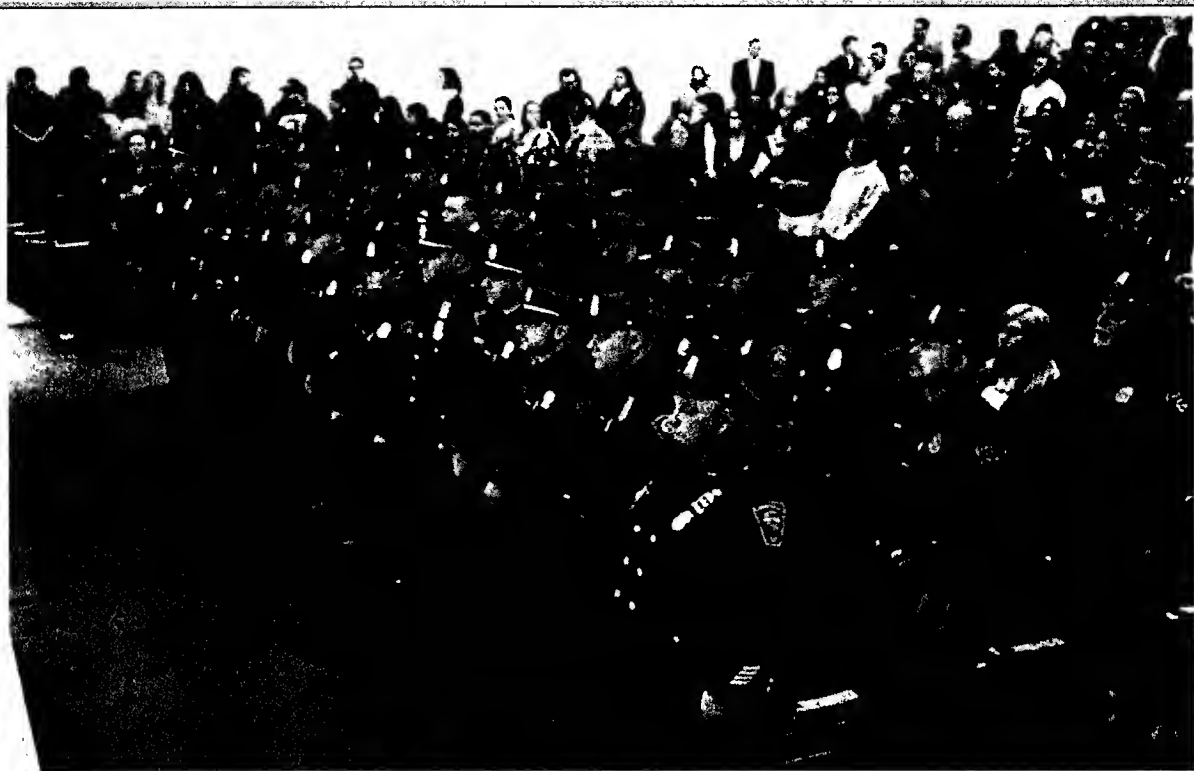
### Unit Citation Award

Awarded to any squad, unit or group of officers that accomplishes outstanding/exceptional case work that is accomplished by a group of officers in a collaborative effort.

*This citation bar shall consist of a black bar with two vertical red stripes with gold crest in center.*

### Chief's Letter of Recognition

Awarded to officers when such criteria does not come under awards 1 through 6, yet personal recognition is deserved for excellent service to the community or department.



## **2017 Internal Investigations Annual Review**

### **IA Case 2017-1**

**October, 2017**

#### **Excessive Force**

A male Stamford resident made the complaint that subsequent to his arrest, excessive force was used against him by two sworn officers as he was being administratively processed in the booking area of the Norwalk Police Holding Facility. The subject received a small above his eye which required stitches during the incident.

An investigation determined that during the booking procedure, the subject attempted to conceal contraband on his person. When asked the turn the contraband over to two officers, the complainant refused, and raised his hand over his head in an aggressive manner. At this point, officers responded with force, placing the complainant on the ground. The subject continued physically resisting the attempts of the officers to control him until ultimately a third officer arrived to assist in handcuffing the subject. Additional charges were lodged against the subject, and the subject was transported to Norwalk Hospital for treatment of his injuries.

During the confrontation, one officer sustained an injury to his elbow which required time away from work and physical therapy.

The subject, after making an initial complaint, declined to cooperate with the investigation. The investigation involved interviewing the involved officers and viewing video, both of the police booking area and the location on Connecticut Avenue where the subject was initially arrested.

Use of Force by the officers was determined to be a lawful use of force in response to the initial aggression of the subject.

**IA Case 2017-2**

**November, 2017**

**Excessive Force, Demeanor**

A female Philadelphia resident makes the complaint that an officer who had responded to a large disturbance in the parking lot of a social club on Lexington Avenue used profanity and pushed or pulled her, causing her to fall to the ground. The subject reported no injuries.

An investigation determined that the officer in question responded to multiple calls of a large group fighting at approximately 1:30 AM in the parking lot of a social club located on Lexington Avenue in a residential area. Upon the officer's arrival, there was a group of approximately twenty in the parking lot with approximately five to seven individuals actively fighting. Within seconds of his arrival, the officer in question was charged at by a male who physically confronted the officer. At this point, there were only three officers present on the scene, and one of the other two was himself making an arrest of an individual who had physically engaged him.

The officer in question secured his arrest and turned his attention to the group. In his attempt to disburse a the group which was still fighting and milling around, the officer used force to push or pull individuals away from the scene. It was at this point that the subject was either pushed or pulled, and fell to the ground sustaining no injuries.

The officer can in fact be heard using profanity during the incident.

An investigation determined that the officer used appropriate force to address a group which was engaging in loud, tumultuous, fighting behavior. His language was not inconsistent with the language being used by numerous participants in the disturbance. During an interview, the complaining subject explained that she had been in her vehicle attempting to leave the scene. When she observed an officer making an arrest, she exited her vehicle and approached the disturbance on foot to determine why the arrest was being made. It was at the point that she had approached the still ongoing disturbance that she was pushed or pulled away by the officer who was trying to clear the area.

The investigation included the viewing of over 3 ½ hours of body worn camera video and the interview of officers who had been at the scene.

Use of Force by the officer was determined to be a lawful use of minimal force in response to the loud, profane, physically aggressive behavior of a crowd. Use of profanity by the officer was found not to be inconsistent with the overall tone of the large disturbance.

## **Analysis of Complaints**

There were four less internal investigations in 2017 than in 2016. There were two such investigations in 2017. Both of the 2017 cases dealt with the issue of use of force. In both instances, the use of force was found to be in compliance with Connecticut General Statutes and Departmental Directives. In both cases, the use of force was in response to aggression, and the cases do not indicate a pattern of excessive force by Norwalk Police Officers.

The officer's use of language was likewise a response to the language being exhibited by the crowd which he was attempting to disburse. It was not out of place in the environment in which he was working.

The following Connecticut General Statutes and Departmental Directive were reviewed in the handling of the above investigations:

CGS 53a-22 Use of Force

CGS 53a-23 Interfering with a Police Officer (Resisting Arrest)

CGS 53a-181 Breach of Peace

Norwalk Police Department Manual, Section 4.2, Conformance to Laws

Norwalk Police Department Directives Section 11.1.1 Use of Force

Norwalk Police Department Directives Section 11.1.3 Reasonable Force

Norwalk Police Department Directives Section 11.1.15 Rendering Medical Aid

Norwalk Police Department Manual Section 4.24 Demeanor

### **Grievance Analysis 2017**

There were no grievances filed by the Norwalk Police Union against the City of Norwalk in 2017. There were two grievances filed in 2016. The lack of grievances filed in 2017 indicates an increase in cooperation between the Police Union and the City to resolve issues through mutual cooperation and negotiation.

This analysis is being completed in compliance with Directive 4.7.3. All pursuits are reviewed by the shift supervisor and the Deputy Chief of Operations. The shift supervisors forwarded a synopsis to the Deputy Chief. The Deputy Chief of Operations conducts a complete review which may include the synopsis, police reports, radio transmissions and body camera video.

During 2017 there were sixteen (16) pursuits which is consistent with 2016 where there was eighteen (18) and fourteen (14) in 2015. One pursuit was in assistance of Connecticut State Police on I95 in Norwalk and the officer terminated at the town line. Seven pursuits were of stolen vehicles and four were narcotics related violations. The remaining pursuits were related to DUI or motor vehicle charges. The majority of pursuits continue to occur between 2000hrs and 0400hrs. Seven pursuits occurred on third platoon, six occurred on first platoon and three occurred during second platoon. Due to the lighter vehicle and pedestrian traffic of the late night and early morning hours pursuits are more apt to be allowed to continue. Seven of the pursuits were very short. Four pursuits were terminated by the supervisor. In two of the pursuits the driver was not apprehended. In eight of the pursuits there was damage done to a vehicle from an accident. Six of those resulting in damage were stolen vehicles. Norwalk and surrounding areas saw a trend of groups of juveniles coming in to the city with the purpose of burglarizing and stealing vehicles. When Police attempted to stop the juveniles, they would engage officers in pursuit in attempt to evade arrest. The juvenile's age, lack of driving experience and recklessness may have contributed to the amount of accidents.

The individual officers involved in the pursuits were reviewed as part of this analysis. Eight of the pursuits involved Officers in the Special Services Division. Half of these pursuits involved narcotics, two were stolen vehicles and two were for motor vehicle violations. Due to the proactive nature of the work done by officers in this division, they are more likely to become involved with subjects who want to flee to allude being apprehended. There are multiple officers in the same vehicle so it is not concerning that multiple officers were involved in multiple pursuits. Officers were reasonable in evaluating the circumstances and there were no concerning patterns observed.

Data related to pursuits over the last three years is compiled in the table below.

PURSUIITS	2015	2016	2017
Total Pursuits	14	18	16
Terminated by Agency	4	5	4
Policy Compliant	13	16	16
Policy Non-compliant	1	2	0
Accidents	1	1	7
Injuries: Officer	1	0	1
Suspects	0	0	1
Third Party	3	0	1
Traffic offense	10	6	5
Felony	3	2	8
Misdemeanor	1	1	3

In five of the seven pursuits that ended in motor vehicle crashes the vehicles were stolen. It is recommended that the data be shared and discussed during annual pursuit review credit training. It is recommended that officers be cautioned regarding this dangerous trend.

A review of each pursuit at time it occurred found all to be within policy. One officer was counseled due on officer safety and procedures for failing to notified dispatch when he initially stopped the vehicle however he did notify dispatch when the vehicle sped off and follow procedure for the pursuit itself.

The Department pursuit policy, Directive 4.7 is reviewed with officer during training on a three-year cycle. High risk driving is also taught as part of the review credit cycle. The need to continually evaluate the circumstance to bases on the totality of the circumstances is also discussed.

As part of this analysis Directive 4 7, Pursuit and Emergency Driving was reviewed in its entirety to determine if any modifications are needed. Base on this review it is determine that the policy and practices are sufficient and no changes are recommended at this time. It appears officer and supervisors are following policy and evaluating each incident on the totality of circumstances.

# 2017 Use Of Force Analysis



This Analysis is conducted in compliance with Norwalk Police Directive 11.1 13. Each officer that uses force completes form NPD072, Response to Resistance and Aggression Report in addition to documenting the details in a police report. The form and police reports are reviewed by the officer's supervisor and shift commander. The shift commander forwards the form with his/her recommendation to the Deputy Chief of Operations. The forms, reports and body camera footage are reviewed and evaluated by the Deputy Chief. The reports and forms with the Deputy Chief's recommendations are forwarded to the Chief of Police. Once reviewed by the Chief, all Response to Resistance and Aggression forms are filed with the Professional Standards Division. Those forms are used to track each incident by the Deputy Chief on a spreadsheet which is used as basis for this analysis of the Norwalk Police Department's activities, policies and practices.

#### Incident Analysis

In 2017, force was used two hundred and seventy-five (275) times during one hundred and thirty-three (133) distinct incidents. This is up a third from two hundred and one (201) and two hundred and three (203) the previous two years. However, it is still down slightly from 2014, where force was used three hundred four (304) times. The most frequent type of incidents where force was used was disturbances (28) and narcotics (27). The other frequent type of incidents were; suspicious persons (11), armed subjects (10), medical aid (10) and recovery of stolen vehicles (7). Additional type of incidents, were assaults (5), unwanted guests (5), motor vehicle violations (5), fights (4), larceny (4), warrants (4), DUI (3), Robbery (3), Trespass (1), Forgery (1), Threats, and a fire (1). A review of the type of incidents where force was used did not reveal any concerning trends.

In sixty-nine (69) cases, multiple officers at an incident will use force on the subjects to gain compliance. At times, the same officer or different officer(s) may use force on multiple subjects during the same incident. Ninety-two individual officers used force in 2017 in comparison to seventy-five (75) in 2016. In one hundred and thirty-three (133) incidents, officers used force on one hundred and fifty-four (154) subjects. One hundred and thirty-one (131) of those subjects were arrested. Of the subjects that were not arrested, eight (8) were emotionally disturbed and provided medical attention, seven (7) had firearms pointed at them due to the high risk nature of what the officers were investigating and eight (8) were under the influence of drugs or alcohol and either involved in a chaotic fight scene or in need of medical attention.

Force is used the most on the third platoon with sixty-one (61) incidents. This is consistent with previous years. There were thirty-seven (37) incidents on the first platoon and thirty-five (35) on the second platoon. Since the third platoon has the highest call volume, it is expected that it would also have the highest use of force rate. Wednesdays and Thursday have the least number of incidents with fourteen (14) and sixteen (16) respectively. The other days of the week have between nineteen (19) on Monday and a high of twenty-two (22) on Saturday. No single day of the week stands out when looking at the totality of incidents.

As part of this review, I evaluated the individual officers who had ten or more applications of force during 2017 and identified four (4) officers. The individual officer's totality of usages were reviewed for any concerning patterns. Two of the officers are in a proactive assignment targeting narcotics and related crimes where there is a higher risk of the suspect to be carrying an illegal weapon. Members of the Special Services Division which these officers are assigned to, accounted for twenty six (26%) of the use of force for 2017. This is expected since they are serving narcotic search warrants and making arrests where there is often a higher risk of weapons. Additionally, these events often occur with a multiple officer team and therefore often one incident may involve four or five officers. Many times this is the pointing of a firearm due to the higher risk of the suspect having a weapon. Of the two additional officers, one worked third platoon patrol for the eight months and second platoon for four months while the other worked first platoon for eight months and third platoon for four months. One of these officers is proactive about responding to assist other officers on any calls that there may put fellow officer be a greater than normal danger. Two of these officers were provided additional training on public perception and use of force options. This additional training was provided preventatively to ensure the least amount of force possible is used by improving and enhancing tactics. A review of the incidents for these four officers does not show any inappropriate use of force. The collection and review of the raw data for all other officers also does not show any concerning patterns or trends.

#### Type of force Analysis

The use of physical force is down slightly from last year while still up from 2015, accounting for 52%, 56% and 43% respectively. The pointing of firearms has increased substantially from 21.5% of incidents in 2016 to 36% in 2017. TASER usage was down further from 30% in 2015, to 20.5% in 2016 and 10% in 2017. TASER usage continues to be broken down into three categories to better understand the usage. Those categories are, Prong deployment, Drive stun and Point only. The total usages of force are broken down as follows: Physical force was used one hundred and forty three (143) times, firearms pointed one hundred (100) times, OC spray used three (3) times, Baton used one (1) time, Canine used one (1) time and TASER used twenty-seven (27) times. The TASER usages are broken down as follows: Prongs being deployed fourteen (14) times, Drive stun six (6) times, and only pointed seven (7) times. Where multiple types of use of force are used the data is collected to show what would be considered to be the highest level of force used by each officer for the incident.

The use of the TASER continues to drop to twenty-seven (27) in 2017 from forty one (41) and sixty one (61) respectively in 2016 and 2015. While the number of use of physical force continues to increase from eighty-eight (88) in 2015 to one hundred and thirteen (113) in 2016, to one hundred and forty-three (143) in 2017. The pointing of firearms has the most significant increase from forty-seven (47) in 2015 and forty-three (43) in 2016 to one hundred (100) times in 2017. The use of the canine, baton and OC spray although infrequent, shows the need to continue to carry these tools to give officers multiple less lethal options. It is likely the adverse press from the January 2016 preliminary report from Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) IMRP that indicated there was a higher rate of use of TASER on minorities in Connecticut and that Norwalk had the second highest

TASER usage in the state. Although Connecticut mandated reporting of TASER usage in 2014, not all municipalities complied with that mandate. Further, not all municipalities issue TASERS to all of their officers. Whereas in Norwalk, every officer is issued a TASER. Additionally we have previously had officers put themselves at greater risk, opting for TASER in deadly force threats, when no other officer is covering with a higher force option. Although we stress the use of the least amount of force necessary, officers should not put themselves at undue risk, merely to avoid use of firearms. It appears these two issues may be continuing to contribute to the decrease in TASER usage and the increased use of physical force. The previously mentioned training may additionally account for the increase in the pointing of firearms. Each individual pointing of a firearm was reviewed and found appropriate in each situation. It is recommended that the decreased reliance on the TASER and increased reliance on physical force be addressed in our annual Use of Force training.

#### **Injuries**

The actual number of injuries to suspects remains consistent with the proceeding two years although the relation of injuries to uses of force is down. There were twenty-seven (27) reported injuries in 2017, thirty (30) in 2016 and twenty-nine (29) in 2015. Consistent with previous years, incidents where the TASER probe only needed to be removed or OC spray needed irrigation are not reported as injuries since it is a mechanism of force used. Many of the injuries were the result of being brought to the ground for the officers to be able to control the subject. Consistent with the previous year, alcohol and/or drugs were involved or the subject was believed to be emotionally disturbed in thirteen (13) of the incidents. This was the case with fifteen (15) incidents in 2016 and sixteen (16) incidents in 2015.

Injuries to officers is comparable to last year with eighteen (18) officers being injured in 2017 and seventeen (17) in 2016. Many of these injuries were minor; however there were three shoulder injuries and two back injuries. Although the number of officers injured is still down from the twenty three in 2014, we need to continue to look at ways to improve training and tactics to reduce injuries.

#### **Subjects of Force**

Eighty-eight percent (88%) of the subjects of use of force were male and twelve percent (12%) were female. The percentage of female subjects is up from seven percent (7%) in 2016. The percentage of subjects believed to be under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol continues to rise from twenty-six and a half percent (26.5 %) in 2016 to thirty-two percent (32%) in 2017. Twelve percent (12%) of incidents involved emotionally disturbed persons (EDPs) which is up slightly from 2016 in which was ten percent (10%). This is still down from the sixteen percent (16%) in 2015. Sixty percent (60%) of the subjects were between the ages of nineteen (19) to thirty four (34) with forty eight subjects being between the ages of nineteen (19) to twenty five (25) and forty five subjects being between the ages of twenty six (26) to thirty four (34). This is the first year the age of the subject has been tracked so only 2017 data is included in the table below.

Year	18 & under	19-25	26-34	35-44	45-54	55 & over
2017	8%	31%	29%	18%	9%	5%

The breakdown by race of the subject is depicted in the following table:

Year	Black	White	Hispanic	Unknown
2017	49%	38%	12%	<1%
2016	53%	34%	11%	2%
2015	50%	32%	18%	-
2014	47%	48%	5%	-
2013	44%	51%	6%	-

The total arrests for 2017, was broken down by racial statistics as follows: 36% Black, 32% White, 28% Hispanic and 4% Other/Unknown. Total arrests for Interfering with a Police Officer arrests for 2017 were broken down by racial statistics as follows: 49% Black, and 46% White. However, ethnicity is not determined in those statistics. Therefore, in comparison of the racial breakdown of use of force incidents with those arrested for Interfering with an Officer, there does not appear to be any obvious disparity. The racial statistics for use of force are based upon the perception of the officer when completing the Response to Resistance and Aggression report. The review of individual use of force incidents does not indicate any disparate treatment of anyone based on race or ethnicity.

#### Conclusion

The total number of uses of force although up from the last two years is still below the uses is 2014. The major increase is in the pointing of a firearm and physical force. The majority of the physical force is minor in nature and includes forcibly handcuffing a subject who is actively trying to avoid being handcuffed. Each individual use of force is reviewed shortly after its occurrence by at least two and up to four supervisors. Overall TASER usage remains low as seen in the previous year.

A review of the overall department use of force shows that the officers are using force appropriately and supervisors are properly reviewing and forwarding the information through the chain of command. Any individual incident where there was a concern have been discussed with the officer at the shift level or with retraining. There have been no serious violations of policy. Analysis of the data does not trigger any warnings signs or concerns. As in the prior year, the majority of the injuries are minor abrasions, bruises or lacerations from being taken to the ground or resisting arrest while on the ground. It is determined that the overall use of force by officers of this department is appropriate and justified.

A review of the policies and procedure related to use of force were reviewed and found to be sufficient. The tracking and review of use of force incidents appears accurate and complete. Although minor changes were made in the policy during 2017, based upon best practices identified at the national level, no policy or procedure deficiencies were discovered and no revisions are recommended at this time. We will continue to review recent reports and studies by PERF, IACP and others to keep policies in line with best practices.

**Police Lawsuits  
For January to December 2017**

<b>Lawsuits filed against the PD in 2017</b>			
<b>Date Received</b>	<b>Type of Complaint</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Final Disposition</b>
September 2017	Dajuan Wiggins – Civil Rights Violation	Open	
November 2017	Chauncey Moore – Civil Rights Violation	Open	
<b>Lawsuits Instituted prior to 2017 and closed in 2017</b>			
July 2014	Cody Greene – Excessive Force	Closed	Settlement finalized
December 2015	Mclynn Cadiente – Vicious Dog	Closed	Settled (2016)
<b>Open Lawsuits instituted prior to 2017</b>			
2016	Eddy Florestant – Motor vehicle incident	Open	
2016	Braulio Seguro-Ordaz – Motor vehicle incident	Open	
2015	Pablo Gomez (Excessive Force)	Open	
2016	Christopher Garnett (Excessive Force)	Open	Pending to close
2016	Jonathan Torres (Excessive Force)	Open	